

To the Committee

I am very concerned about the possible effect of Coal Seam Gas Exploration in the basin.

I feel that it should be banned on prime farmland, bushland and anywhere associated with important aquifers.

Landholders should have the right to veto Coal seam Gas exploration and exploration on their land.

Gas exploration companies should be responsible for the degradation of exploration sites and be made to pay large bond before entering the property of another.

Coal Seam Gas exploratory companies should also pay Shire Rates to cover the damage to Shire Roads and infrastructure.

I am concerned that rural landscapes are turned into industrial zones and the socio-economic profile of communities forever changed by a fly in / fly out workforce.

The ability of Governments and Miners to reassure us to the safety of their actions with regard to the Murray-Darling Basin is seriously in question.

We cannot afford to interfere with our water source for such relatively short term gains 20 to 30 years at most, compared to the endless ability of the land to produce through judicious farming methods. We also have to consider whether we will have the ability ,as a nation, to feed ourselves if we follow the path of mining our most productive land.

Jacqueline Reardon.